

NYC- LEGAL ASSISTANCE HANDBOOK

Manhattan Brooklyn

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NY Court Help

<https://www.nycourts.gov/courthelp/>

Contains helpful information about the New York State courts including forms to use, legal resources and finding representation. Also contains an overview of different areas of law and the public law libraries in every county along with a glossary of legal terminology.

Free Legal Advice (Questions may be posted on the website)

<http://www.freeadvice.com/>

Provides consumers with legal and insurance-related information on the web. Features attorney, expert witness and insurance agent directories, a free Ask a Lawyer service, an extensive library of related articles and a popular discussion forum to help consumers get help on legal issues.

Empire Justice Center

<http://onlineresources.wnyc.net/welcome.asp?index=Welcome>

This is an online legal resource center which contains various legal databases such as public benefits and administrative hearings. Also contains domestic violence case information and federal court decisions relating to Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Income.

Pro Bono Net

<http://www.probono.net/ny/>

This site contains helpful resources for pro bono & legal services attorneys, law professionals, and law students to assist in the representation of low income or disadvantaged clients. However, there are resources on this site that might be helpful to a pro-se litigant.

151 West 30th Street, 10th Fl.

New York, NY 10001

Email: info@probono.net

New York City Public Library-Law & Legal Services

<https://www.nypl.org/node/5727>

*Survey of how to find free or low cost legal services in New York City
List of legal resources at the NY Public Library and elsewhere in New York City.*

US Government Printing Office

<http://www.gpo.gov/>

Find information about Federal depository libraries located In New York & the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications . Also contains Presidential documents, the Federal Register, Federal Laws, Federal Regulations, Bills, Congressional Hearings & Reports and Court Decisions.

National Network to End Domestic Violence

<http://www.womenslaw.org/>

This site contains information on domestic abuse, but also has legal information on the relevant laws, preparing for courts and finding legal representation.

New York County Lawyers' Association/ Legal Referral Service

<http://www.nycla.org/>

You can speak to a trained referral counselor who is a paralegal or lawyer. The referral counselor will listen to you and help you decide if you need to hire a lawyer. If a private lawyer is not appropriate to your needs, the referral counselor may give you basic information or recommend a free legal service or a suitable agency to assist you. If a private lawyer is appropriate, the referral counselor can usually refer you to a lawyer with the knowledge and experience you require. The Legal Referral Service does not charge for any information you receive or for attorney recommendations.

14 Vesey Street

New York, NY 10007

Tel: (212) 626-7373/7374

New York City Bar Association/Legal Referral Service

<http://www.nycbar.org/get-legal-help/overview>

Counselors for the Referral Service match clients with experienced lawyers in over 100 areas of law.

42 West 44th Street,

New York, NY 10036

Tel: 212-626-7373 & (212) 382-6600

New York City Bar Justice Center

<http://www2.nycbar.org/citybarjusticecenter/legal-hotline>

Offers legal information, advice and referrals to low-income New Yorkers who cannot afford a private attorney or do not have access to legal representation. The Hotline assists on a range of civil legal issues, including matrimonial and family law, housing law, domestic violence, bankruptcy, and debt collection and benefits. The service is bilingual, in English and Spanish, and can handle calls in any language through interpreting services.

42 West 44th Street New York, NY 10036

Tel: (212) 626-7383 & (212) 382-6756

New York State Bar Association/LawHelpNY

<http://www.lawhelpny.org/>

Provides legal information for New Yorkers who cannot afford an attorney. The site is an online tool for helping low-income New Yorkers solve their legal problems. The mission of the organization is to: "Provide and promote access to, high-quality online information about free legal services throughout New York, about legal rights in a broad range of substantive areas, about the court system, and about related advocacy, government and social service organizations."

American Bar Association

New York Division of Legal Service

<http://apps.americanbar.org/legalservices/findlegalhelp/main.cfm?id=NY>

This is a consumers' guide to assistance in New York. It includes basic legal information, court information, foreclosure information, self-help, free legal help, lawyer referrals and lawyer directories.

321 North Clark Street

Chicago, IL 60654

Tel: (800) 285-2221

Email: <http://apps.americanbar.org/legalservices/findlegalhelp/comment.cfm>

MANHATTAN LOCATIONS:

**Thurgood Marshall
Foley Square Research Library**

<http://www.ca2.uscourts.gov/>

Thurgood Marshall US Courthouse
York, NY 10007
40 Centre Street, 5th Floor
Tel: (212) 857-8900

Hours: 8:30am - 4:30pm
Librarian: Yes
Collection: Federal & NY
Wi-Fi: No
Computers : Yes
Copy machines: No
Printers: No
Lending: No

**Alexander Hamilton Customs House
Bowling Green Bankruptcy Research Library**

<http://www.nysb.uscourts.gov/>

United States Bankruptcy Court
One Bowling Green, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10004
Tel: (212) 857-8900

Hours: 9am - 5pm
Librarian: No
Collection: Bankruptcy
Wi-Fi: No
Computers: Yes
Copy machines: No
Printers: No
Lending: No

BROOKLYN LOCATIONS:

**EDNY Brooklyn Courthouse
John R. Bartels Research Library**

<https://www.nyed.uscourts.gov/>

United States Courthouse
225 Cadman Plaza East,
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Room 313S
Tel: (718) 613-2320

Hours: 9am - 5pm
Librarian: Yes
Collection: Federal & NY
Wi-Fi: Yes

Computers: No
Copy machines: No
Printers: No
Lending: No

**EDNY Bankruptcy Courthouse
E.D.N.Y. Bankruptcy Research Library**

<http://www.nyeb.uscourts.gov/>

United States Courthouse
271 Cadman Plaza East, 2nd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Tel: (718) 613-2320

Hours: 9am - 5pm
Librarian: No
Collection: Bankruptcy
Wi-Fi: No
Computers: Yes
Copy machines: No
Printers: No
Lending: No

New York City Hall Library

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/records/html/library/chlibrary.shtml>

Large collection of books, periodicals, reports & documents.

31 Chambers Street, Room 112

Tel: 311

Email: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/records/html/contact/chlibrary.shtml>

Science, Industry and Business Library (SIBL)

<http://www.nypl.org/locations/sibl>

Has good collection of legal material and computer terminals.

188 Madison Avenue @ 34th Street

New York, NY 10016-4314

Tel: (917) 275-6975

Brooklyn Public Access Law Library

<http://nycourts.gov/library/brooklyn/index.shtml>

Has a large legal collection and computer terminals for research.

Kings County Supreme Court

3rd Floor, 360 Adams Street

Brooklyn, NY 11201

Tel: (347) 296-1144

United States District Court SDNY/Pro Se Office

http://www.nysd.uscourts.gov/courtrules_prose.php

“The information on this site provides information to individuals who are representing themselves in the Southern District of New York without the assistance of an attorney. This website is intended as an informative and practical resource for these litigants and is not a substitute for legal advice from an experienced attorney. The information is procedural in nature...”

500 Pearl Street

New York, NY 10007-1312

Tel: (212) 805-0136

Georgetown Law Library

<http://guides.ll.georgetown.edu/newyork>

This State Guide lists the major sources of law in New York. The first link in the Guide brings you to a page which explains the process in-depth of making laws and regulations in the state of New York and how to locate New York State legal material.

Cornell University Legal Information Institute

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/>

Not for-profit-organization which provides free access to the following Legal resources;

US Constitution, Federal law, U.S. Code, C.F.R. , Supreme Court, Federal Rules, State Laws, ces

State statutes by topic, U.C.C. , Uniform laws, World law, Wex legal encyclopedia, CRS Annotated

Constitution, LII Supreme Court Bulletin, Table of Popular Names and Parallel Table of Authorities.

New York City Civil Court/The Civil Court Help Center

<http://www.nycourts.gov/courts/nyc/civil/resourcecenter.shtml>

Provides free walk-in services to litigants who are not represented by an attorney and have cases pending in the NYC Civil Court. Attorneys employed by the Civil Court meet daily with unrepresented litigants and provide legal and procedural information. They are neutral parties who can't give legal advice or advise on handling cases. No appointment is necessary and free interpreters can be provided. Litigants should bring any relevant court papers

New York County Housing Court)
111 Centre Street, Room 104
New York, NY 10013

New York Supreme Court Help Center

http://www.nycourts.gov/courts/1jd/supctmanh/Help_Center.shtml

Provides guidance on bringing actions in NY Civil Supreme for individuals who have no attorney. The staff of the Center addresses questions about court operations and procedures and also provides the appropriate forms so that inquiring persons can take legal action on their own if so inclined. The Help Center staff may also make an examination of papers for formal sufficiency.

60 Centre Street, Room 116
New York, NY 10007
Tel: (646) 386-3025

Family Court/Help Center/Volunteer Attorneys Program

<http://www.nycourts.gov/courts/nyc/family/selfrepresented.shtml>

This office provides assistance to Family Court users including the ability to file various court papers, petitions and/or motions. In addition there are volunteer attorneys available for free legal consultations on Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays: 9:00am - 4:30pm regarding issues of support, paternity, custody, visitation, family offense and guardianship.

60 Lafayette Street
1st Floor Petition Room
New York, NY 10013
Tel: (646) 386-5220

Legal Information for Families Today - LIFT

<http://www.liftonline.org/>

Has representatives in the Family Court offering on-the-spot help to families. Also, gives help and information on the telephone hotline. Located in the lobby directly past the metal detectors.

60 Lafayette Street, NY 10013
Tel: (212) 343-1122

Harlem Community Justice Center Help Center

<http://www.courtinnovation.org/project/harlem-community-justice-center>

The Harlem Community Justice Center seeks to solve neighborhood problems—including youth crime, landlord-tenant disputes, and the challenges faced by parolees—in East and Central Harlem.

Harlem Community Justice Center
170 East 121st Street, NY 10035
Tel: (212) 360-4100

http://www.nysd.uscourts.gov/courtrules_prose.php?prose=contact

This office has information on proceeding as a Pro-se litigant and on finding an attorney.

500 Pearl Street, NY Room 200

Tel: (212) 805-0175

New York County District Attorney's Office

<http://manhattanda.org/search-resources>

Information on a range of crimes, including Sex Crime, Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Hate Crime, Cybercrime, Immigration Fraud, Financial Crime, and Public Corruption. The site has overviews of these types of crime, tools for navigating the criminal justice system, victim resources, and important contact information and emergency phone numbers.

1 Hogan Place, New York, NY 10013

Tel: (212) 335-9000

Division of Housing & Community Renewal/Tenant Protection Unit

<http://www.nyshcr.org/Rent/TenantProtectionUnit/>

"The TPU works pro-actively to:

- Protect the rights of rent regulated tenants and provide information to both tenants and owners*
- Increase compliance with and enforce rent regulation laws*
- Detect landlords' fraudulent acts and non-compliance with housing laws"*

N.S. Homes & Community Renewal

Tenant Protection Unit

Gert Plaza

92-31 Union Hall Street

Jamaica NY 11433

Tel: (718)739-6400

Email: TPUinfo@nyshcr.org

6) PRIVATE LEGAL SERVICES-----

The Legal Aid Society

<http://www.legal-aid.org/en/las/findus/locations.aspx>

Free legal services to low-income New Yorkers

Legal Aid Society Headquarters

199 Water Street

New York, NY 10038

Tel: (212) 577-3300

Legal Services NYC

<http://www.legalservicesnyc.org/index.php>

Provides free legal help on cases involving housing, family, domestic violence, public benefits, income tax, employment, education, immigration, and consumer rights. Also assists children not receiving child support, victims of domestic violence, people with AIDS, HIV and elderly citizens facing eviction.

40 Worth Street, Suite 606

New York, New York 10013

Tel: (646) 442-3100

<http://www.claronyc.org/claronyc/default.html>

CLARO provides limited legal advice to low-income New Yorkers being sued by debt collectors.

New York City Civil Courthouse

111 Center Street, Room 105

Tel: (212) 267-6646/Email: blsclaro@gmail.com

The NY Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG)

<http://nylag.org/>

Provides free civil legal services to New Yorkers who cannot afford a private attorney. Services includes direct representation, case consultation, advocacy, community education, training, financial counseling, and impact litigation. Includes assistance with federal lawsuits.

7 Hanover Square, 18th Floor

New York, NY 10004

Tel: (212) 613-5000

MY Legal Services

<http://www.mfy.org/about/about-mfy/>

Free legal assistance to residents of NYC on a wide range of civil legal issues

299 Broadway, 4th Floor

Tel: (212) 417-3700

University Settlement

<http://www.universitysettlement.org/us/advocacy/>

Provides support for immigrants and low-income families for basic services such as education, housing, access to open space for exercise and health, and support for the aging.

184 Eldridge Street, NY 10002

Tel: (212) 475-5008

Email: info@universitysettlement.org

New York Peace Institute

<http://nypeace.org/>

This organization has facilities for dispute resolution through mediation.

111 John Street, Suite 600

Tel: (212) 577-1740

Volunteers of Legal Service

<http://www.volsprobono.org/>

Utilizing some of the city's biggest law firms, this organization provides pro bono legal assistance to the city's neediest residents. The staff and volunteer attorneys help New Yorkers solve difficult legal problems which involve significant consequences for them and for their families. Among the services that are provided; helping mothers in prison maintain visitation with their children, providing senior citizens with advance health care directives and essential life-planning documents, helping immigrant high school students resolve immigration issues so that they can work legally and/or attend college and helping children with asthma by forcing landlords to eradicate mold and to repair crumbling plaster.

281 Park Avenue South

New York, New York 10010

Tel: (212) 966-4400

<http://www.nycourts.gov/courts/nyc/civil/vlpsselfrep.shtml>

Get free legal advice for your Civil or Small Claims case through the Civil Court's Volunteer Lawyers Project. Volunteer Lawyers can review your court papers, discuss your case, help you fill out forms help you plan what to do with your case, tell you where to find a lawyer to represent you in your case.

New York County Housing Court
111 Center Street, Room 104
New York, NY 10013

New York County Defender Services

<http://nycds.org/home.aspx>

Not-for-profit law firm defending poor people in Manhattan charged with criminal offenses. The firm includes trial assistants, social workers, immigration specialists, investigators, translators, and other support staff who assist the attorneys in their defense work.

225 Broadway- Suite 1100
New York, NY 10007
Tel: (212) 803-5100

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest

<http://www.nylpi.org/>

151 West 30th Street, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10001

This organization has resources and has skilled volunteer attorneys offering a wide range of legal services. This is a Pro Bono Clearinghouse which screens and refers requests for free legal assistance to over 90 member law firms, corporate legal departments and other volunteer lawyers.

Tel: 212-244-4664

7) LEGAL FORMS-----

Blumberg Excelsior

<http://www.blumberg.com/>

This is a private company that charges basic rates for legal forms, legal supplies, legal searches and for some basic legal services. You can access all of this information through their on-line legal site. It has legal material which is specific for New York State. Also has a chat connection for questions.

16 Court St, Brooklyn NY 11241
Tel: 800-221-2972 or 800-529-6278

Jacoby & Meyers Legal Forms

<http://www.legalforms.com/>

This site contains legal forms for specific states and specific courts, "including Wills, Power of Attorney, Real Estate, Business Formation, Landlord Tenant and thousands of others." The site also has form packages which bundle a number of forms with instructions. Some forms can be downloaded immediately and others are mailed. There is a charge for all of the forms, but the site does provide a sample preview which may be helpful. Also has a chat connection for questions.

Tel: 1-877-389-0141

***Disclaimer: The NY County Public Access Library does not endorse or recommend any of the above programs. The list and description of these services are simply provided as a convenience and the user must decide for himself if they meet their specific needs.